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# ON MULTIPLICATIVE INDUCTION (Research on finite groups and their representations, vertex operator algebras, and algebraic combinatorics)

AUTHOR(S):

ODA, FUMIHITO

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# ON MULTIPLICATIVE INDUCTION

FUMIHITO ODA  
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS  
FACULTY OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING  
KINKI UNIVERSITY

**ABSTRACT.** Let  $G$  be a finite group and  $e$  be the proper trivial subgroup of  $G$ . We compute the value  $\text{Jnd}_H^G(\ell[H/e])$  for a subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  in the Burnside ring  $\Omega(G)$  for an integer  $\ell$ . Their values induce integer valued polynomials.

## 1. NOTATION

Let  $G$  be a finite group and  $s_G$  be the set of all subgroups of  $G$ . Denote by  ${}^gH$  the conjugate subgroup  $gHg^{-1}$  for  $H \leq G$  and  $g \in G$ . Let  $[s_G]$  be a set of representatives of  $G$ -conjugacy classes of  $s_G$ . If  $X$  is a finite  $G$ -set, write  $[X]$  for the isomorphism class of finite  $G$ -sets containing  $X$ . Denote by  $X^S$  the  $S$ -fixed points of the  $G$ -set  $X$ . If  $X$  is a finite set, write  $|X|$  for the cardinality of  $X$ . Denote by  $e$  the identity element of  $G$ . The proper trivial subgroup  $\{e\}$  of  $G$  is also denoted by  $e$ . For two subgroups  $S, H \leq G$  denote by  $[S \backslash G/H]$  a set of representatives of double cosets of  $G$  by  $S$  and  $H$ .

## 2. MULTIPLICATIVE INDUCTIONS FOR BURNSIDE RINGS

Let  $\Omega(G)$  be the Burnside ring of  $G$ . Then  $\Omega(G)$  is a free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module with basis  $\{[G/H] | H \in [s_G]\}$ . The multiplication is defined by the Cartesian product. If  $S \in s_G$ , then there is a unique linear form  $\varphi_S^G : \Omega(G) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $\varphi_S^G([X]) = |X^S|$  for any finite  $G$ -set  $X$ . It is a ring homomorphism. The *mark homomorphism* is a ring homomorphism  $\varphi^G = \prod_{(S) \in [s_G]} \varphi_S^G : \Omega(G) \rightarrow \tilde{\Omega}(G)$ , where  $\tilde{\Omega}(G) = \prod_{(S) \in [s_G]} \mathbb{Z}$  and it is called the *ghost ring* of  $G$ .

**Lemma 2.1.** *The ring homomorphism  $\varphi^G$  is injective.*

We recall some properties for tensor induction of Burnside rings. We refer to [Yo90] for more details. Let  $\text{set}^G$  be the category of finite  $G$ -sets. If  $H \leq G$ , then there is a functor

$$\text{Jnd}_H^G : \text{set}^H \rightarrow \text{set}^G$$

which has the values on objects

$$\text{Jnd}_H^G : X \mapsto \text{Map}_H(G, X),$$

where  $\text{Map}_H(G, X)$  is the set of  $H$ -maps  $\alpha : G \rightarrow X$  such that  $\alpha(h \cdot g) = h \cdot \alpha(g)$  for all  $h \in H, g \in G$ , with the action of  $G$  defined by  $(k \cdot \alpha)(g) = \alpha(gk)$  for  $k \in G$ , for an  $H$ -set  $X$ .

**Lemma 2.2.** *Let  $H$  be a subgroup of  $G$  and  $X$  be an  $H$ -set. If  $S$  is a subgroup of  $G$ , then*

$$\varphi_S^G(\text{Jnd}_H^G(X)) = \prod_{g \in [S \backslash G/H]} \varphi_{H \cap gS}^H(X).$$

**Lemma 2.3.** *Let  $H$  be a subgroup of  $G$ . If  $S$  is a subgroup of  $G$  and  $q \in \mathbb{Z}$ , then*

$$\varphi_S^G(\text{Jnd}_e^G(q[e/e])) = q^{|G/S|}.$$

*Proof.* By Lemma 2.2, we have

$$\varphi_S^G(\text{Jnd}_e^G(q[e/e])) = \prod_{g \in [S \backslash G/e]} \varphi_{e \cap gS}^e(q[e/e]) = \prod_{g \in [S \backslash G]} q \varphi_e^e([e/e]) = \prod_{g \in [S \backslash G]} q.$$

□

It has been shown by Gluck ([Gl81]) and independently by Yoshida ([Yo83]) that a formula of primitive idempotent  $e_H^G$  of  $\mathbb{Q}$ -algebra  $\mathbb{Q} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \Omega(G)$  for  $H \leq G$  can be expressed as

$$(2.1) \quad e_H^G = \frac{1}{|N_G(H)|} \sum_{K \subseteq H} |K| \mu(K, H) [G/K],$$

where  $\mu(K, H)$  is the value of the Möbius function of  $s_G$ .

Denote by  $NH$  (resp.  $WH$ )  $N_G(H)$  (resp.  $H_G(H)/H$ ) for a subgroup  $H$  of  $G$ . Put  $q^G = \text{Jnd}_H^G(q[e/e])$  for  $q \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

**Lemma 2.4.** *If  $G$  is a finite group and  $q$  is an integer, then*

$$q^G = \sum_{(D) \in [s_G]} |WD|^{-1} \sum_{S \leq G} \mu(D, S) q^{|G/S|} [G/D]$$

*Proof.* By Lemma 2.3 and idempotent formula (2.1), we have that

$$\begin{aligned} q^G &= \sum_{S \in [s_G]} \varphi_S^G(q^G) e_S^G \\ &= \sum_{S \in [s_G]} q^{|G/S|} |NS|^{-1} \sum_{D \leq S} |D| \mu(D, S) [G/D] \\ &= \sum_{S \leq G} (G : NS)^{-1} q^{|G/S|} |NS|^{-1} \sum_{D \leq G} |D| \mu(D, S) [G/D] \\ &= |G|^{-1} \sum_{D \leq G} |D| \left( \sum_{S \leq G} \mu(D, S) q^{|G/S|} \right) [G/D] \\ &= |G|^{-1} \sum_{D \in [s_G]} (G : ND) |D| \left( \sum_{S \leq G} \mu(D, S) q^{|G/S|} \right) [G/D] \\ &= \sum_{D \in [s_G]} |WD|^{-1} \left( \sum_{S \leq G} \mu(D, S) q^{|G/S|} \right) [G/D]. \end{aligned}$$

□

In particular, coefficients of  $[G/D]$  in  $q^G$  as above are integers.

**Proposition 2.5.** *If  $G$  is a finite group and  $q$  is an integer, then*

$$|WD|^{-1} \sum_{S \leq G} \mu(D, S) q^{|G/S|}$$

*is an integer for a subgroup  $D$  of  $G$ .*

Substituting  $x$  for  $q$  we obtain integer-valued polynomials  $f_D^G(x)$  as follows.

**Theorem 2.6.** *Let  $G$  be a finite group and put*

$$f_D^G(x) = \frac{1}{|WD|} \sum_{S \leq G} \mu(D, S) x^{|G/S|}$$

*for subgroup  $D$  of  $G$ . Then  $f_D^G(x)$  is an integer-valued polynomial.*

### 3. TAMBARA FUNCTORS

In this section, we recall some notes on Tambara functors. For a  $G$ -map  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  we consider a set

$$\Pi_f(A) = \left\{ (y, \sigma) \mid \begin{array}{l} y \in Y, \sigma : f^{-1}(y) \rightarrow A : \text{map} , \\ \alpha \circ \sigma = \text{id}_{f^{-1}(y)} \end{array} \right\}$$

with  $G$ -action defined by

$$g(y, \sigma) := (gy, {}^g\sigma), \quad {}^g\sigma(x) := g\sigma(g^{-1}x)$$

and denote by  $\Pi_f \alpha$  the projection  $(y, \sigma) \mapsto y$ . For a  $G$ -map  $\alpha : A \rightarrow X$  the pullback functor

$$\begin{aligned} f^* : \quad \text{set}^G/Y &\longrightarrow \text{set}^G/X, \\ (B \rightarrow Y) &\longmapsto (X \times_Y B \xrightarrow{\text{pr}} X) \end{aligned}$$

has a left adjoint functor

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma_f : \quad \text{set}^G/X &\longrightarrow \text{set}^G/Y, \\ (A \xrightarrow{\alpha} X) &\longmapsto (A \xrightarrow{\alpha} X \xrightarrow{f} Y) \end{aligned}$$

and a right adjoint functor

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi_f : \quad \text{set}^G/X &\longrightarrow \text{set}^G/Y, \\ (A \xrightarrow{\alpha} X) &\longmapsto (\Pi_f(A) \xrightarrow{\Pi_f \alpha} Y). \end{aligned}$$

Two natural transformations

$$\Sigma_f \xleftarrow{\Sigma_f \epsilon'} \Sigma_f f^* \Pi_f \xrightarrow{\epsilon \Sigma_f} \Pi_f,$$

give a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & A & \xleftarrow{e} X \times_Y \Pi_f A \\
 \alpha \swarrow & & \downarrow f' \\
 X & \xrightarrow{\quad EXP \quad} & \Pi_f A \\
 \downarrow f & & \downarrow \\
 Y & \xleftarrow{\pi_f \alpha} & 
 \end{array}$$

where  $e : X \times_Y \Pi_f A \ni (x, (y, \sigma)) \mapsto \sigma(x) \in A$  and  $f'$  is projection. In order to discuss the TNR-functors, this diagram is introduced by Tambara in [Ta93]. Brun called it Tambara functor in [Br05]. There are some works concerning about Tambara functors ([Na12a], [Na12b], [Na13], [OY11]).

Denote by **Set** the category of sets and maps and by  $\mathbf{set}^G$  the category of finite  $G$ -sets and  $G$ -maps. For any  $G$ -sets  $X$  and  $Y$  we denote by  $X + Y$  the disjoint union of them.

For any  $G$ -map  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  we consider the triplet of functors

$$\mathbf{T} = (\mathbf{T}_!, \mathbf{T}^*, \mathbf{T}_*) : \mathbf{set}^G \rightarrow \mathbf{Set},$$

consisting of a contravariant functor  $\mathbf{T}^* : \mathbf{set}^G \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$  and two covariant functors  $\mathbf{T}_!, \mathbf{T}_* : \mathbf{set}^G \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$  which coincide on the objects, and so we write

$$\mathbf{T}(X) := \mathbf{T}_!(X) = \mathbf{T}^*(X) = \mathbf{T}_*(X),$$

$$f_! := \mathbf{T}_!(f), f_* := \mathbf{T}_*(f) : \mathbf{T}(X) \rightarrow \mathbf{T}(Y), f^* : \mathbf{T}(Y) \rightarrow \mathbf{T}(X).$$

for any  $G$ -sets  $X, Y$  and any  $G$ -map  $f : X \rightarrow Y$ . A triplet  $\mathbf{T} = (\mathbf{T}_!, \mathbf{T}^*, \mathbf{T}_*)$  is called a *semi-Tambara functor* if these functors satisfy the following axioms:

(T.1) (Additivity) If

$$X \xrightarrow{i} X + Y \xleftarrow{j} Y$$

is a coproduct diagram of finite  $G$ -sets, then

$$\mathbf{T}(X) \xleftarrow{i^*} \mathbf{T}(X + Y) \xrightarrow{j^*} \mathbf{T}(Y)$$

is a product diagram of sets; and  $\mathbf{T}(\emptyset) = 0 (= \{0\})$ .

(T.2) (Pullback formula)

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 X & \xrightarrow{a} & Y \\
 b \downarrow & \text{PB} & \downarrow c \\
 Z & \xrightarrow{d} & W
 \end{array}
 \Rightarrow
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathbf{T}(X) & \xrightarrow{a_!} & \mathbf{T}(Y) \\
 b^* \uparrow & \circ & \uparrow c^* \\
 \mathbf{T}(Z) & \xrightarrow{d_!} & \mathbf{T}(W)
 \end{array},
 \quad
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathbf{T}(X) & \xrightarrow{a_*} & \mathbf{T}(Y) \\
 b^* \uparrow & \circ & \uparrow c^* \\
 \mathbf{T}(Z) & \xrightarrow{d_*} & \mathbf{T}(W)
 \end{array}.$$

(T.3) (Distributive law)

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
X \xleftarrow{a} A \xleftarrow{e} X \times_Y \Pi_f A & & T(X) \xleftarrow{a_!} T(A) \xrightarrow{e^*} T(X \times_Y \Pi_f A) \\
f \downarrow \quad \quad \quad \text{EXP} \quad \quad \downarrow f' & \Rightarrow & f_* \downarrow \quad \quad \quad \circ \quad \quad \downarrow f'_* \\
Y \xleftarrow{q} \Pi_f A & & T(Y) \xleftarrow{q_!} T(\Pi_f A).
\end{array}$$

The axioms (T.1) and (T.2) mean that both of pairs  $(T^*, T_!)$  and  $(T^*, T_*)$  form semi-Mackey functors (see 3.3 of [OY04]). If all  $T(X)$  are commutative ring and  $f_!$ ,  $f^*$ ,  $f_*$  are homomorphisms of additive groups, rings, multiplicative monoids, respectively, then  $T$  is called a *Tambara functor*.

For any finite  $G$ -set  $X$ , let  $\Omega_+(X)$  be the set of isomorphism classes  $[A \rightarrow X]$  of finite  $G$ -sets over  $X$ . Then  $\Omega_+(X)$  is a semiring by coproducts and products in the comma category  $\mathbf{set}^G/X$ . A  $G$ -map  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  induces three maps:

$$\begin{aligned}
f_! &: \Omega_+(X) \rightarrow \Omega_+(Y); [A \xrightarrow{\alpha} X] \mapsto [A \xrightarrow{\alpha} X \xrightarrow{f} Y], \\
f^* &: \Omega_+(Y) \rightarrow \Omega_+(X); [B \rightarrow Y] \mapsto [X \times_Y B \xrightarrow{p_X} X], \\
f_* &: \Omega_+(X) \rightarrow \Omega_+(Y); [A \xrightarrow{\alpha} X] \mapsto [\Pi_f(A) \xrightarrow{\Pi_f \alpha} Y].
\end{aligned}$$

Then the family  $\Omega_+(X)$ ,  $f_!$ ,  $f^*$ ,  $f_*$  form a semi-Tambara functor  $\Omega_+$ . By the Grothendieck ring construction, we have the Burnside ring functor  $\Omega$ , which is a Tambara functor.

**Lemma 3.1.** *Let  $f : G/H \rightarrow G/G$  be the canonical surjection for a subgroup  $H \leq G$ . If  $\alpha : A \rightarrow G/H$  is a  $G$ -map to transitive  $G$ -set  $G/H$ , then there exists a  $G$ -isomorphism*

$$\Pi_f(A) \cong \text{Map}_H(G, \alpha^{-1}(eH)).$$

*Proof.* Since  $G/G$  is a set of cardinality 1 and  $f$  is surjective, we may identify

$$\Pi_f(A) = \{\sigma : G/H \rightarrow A \mid \sigma : \text{map}, \alpha \circ \sigma = \text{id}_{G/H}\}.$$

Then we see that the map  $\varphi : \Pi_f(A) \rightarrow \text{Map}_H(G, \alpha^{-1}(eH))$ ,

$$\varphi : s \mapsto \varphi(s) : G \rightarrow \alpha^{-1}(eH) : g \mapsto gs(g^{-1}H)$$

gives the isomorphism. □

Let  $f : G/H \rightarrow G/G$  be the canonical surjection and  $\Omega$  be the Burnside Tambara functor. Then by Lemma 3.1, we see that the image  $\Omega_*(f)([A \xrightarrow{\alpha} G/H])$  for the map  $\Omega_*(f) : \Omega(G/H) \rightarrow \Omega(G/G)$  is

$$\Omega_*(f)([A \xrightarrow{\alpha} G/H]) = [\text{Map}_H(G, \alpha^{-1}(eH)) \rightarrow G/G].$$

By Lemma 2.4, we have the following result.

**Proposition 3.2.** *If  $f : G/e \rightarrow G/G$  is the canonical surjection,  $q$  is an integer, and  $\Omega$  is the Burnside Tambara functor. Then we have*

$$\Omega_*(f)(q[G/e \xrightarrow{\text{id}} G/e]) = \sum_{(D) \in [s_G]} |WD|^{-1} \sum_{S \leq G} \mu(D, S) q^{|G/S|} [G/D \rightarrow G/G].$$

## 4. NECKLACE POLYNOMIALS

In this section, we show that the polynomial  $f_D^G(x)$  is a generalization of necklace polynomials. It is well known that the number  $M(\alpha, n)$  of primitive necklaces of length  $n$  that can be constructed using a set of beads with  $\alpha$ -colors is computed by a formula

$$M(\alpha, n) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{d|n} \mu\left(\frac{n}{d}\right) \alpha^d = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{d|n} \mu(d) \alpha^{\frac{n}{d}},$$

where  $\mu$  is the classical Möbius function (see [MR83] for instance). It is called *necklace polynomial*. In this section, we show that there is a relationship between the equation of Theorem 2.6 and the necklace polynomials. Denote by  $C_n$  the cyclic group of order  $n$ . Denote by  $\mathcal{S}_G$  the poset  $(s_G, \leq)$  of the subgroups of  $G$  ordered by inclusion. Denote by  $\mathcal{D}(n)$  the divisor poset of a positive integer  $n$  ordered by divisibility relation. If  $m$  is a divisor of  $n$ , then there exists an isomorphism of posets from the closed interval  $[C_m, C_n]_{\mathcal{S}_G}$  to  $\mathcal{D}\left(\frac{n}{m}\right)$ . The following lemma is well known.

**Lemma 4.1.** *If  $C_d$  is an element of  $[C_m, C_n]_{\mathcal{S}_G}$ , then*

$$\mu_{\mathcal{S}_G}(C_m, C_d) = \mu_{\mathcal{D}\left(\frac{n}{m}\right)}\left(1, \frac{d}{m}\right).$$

*In particular,  $\mu_{\mathcal{S}_G}(C_m, C_d) = \mu\left(\frac{d}{m}\right)$ .*

**Theorem 4.2.** *If  $G$  is a cyclic group of order  $n$ , then  $f_{C_m}^G(x) = M\left(x, \frac{n}{m}\right)$  for any divisor  $m$  of  $n$ .*

*Proof.* By the definition of  $f_{C_m}^G(x)$  and Lemma 4.1,

$$\begin{aligned} f_{C_m}^G(x) &= |WC_m|^{-1} \sum_{S \leq C_n} \mu(C_m, S) x^{|G/S|} \\ &= \left|\frac{n}{m}\right|^{-1} \sum_{C_d \leq C_n} \mu(C_m, C_d) x^{|C_n/C_d|} \\ &= \left|\frac{n}{m}\right|^{-1} \sum_{\frac{d}{m} | \frac{n}{m}} \mu\left(\frac{d}{m}\right) x^{\frac{n/m}{d/m}} \\ &= M\left(x, \frac{n}{m}\right). \end{aligned}$$

□

Theorem 4.2 and Theorem 2.6 show the following.

**Corollary 4.3.** *If  $G$  is a cyclic group of order  $n$  and  $\ell$  is a positive integer, then*

$$\ell^G = \sum_{m|n} M\left(\ell, \frac{n}{m}\right) [G/C_m].$$

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DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS  
 FACULTY OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING  
 KINKI UNIVERSITY  
 HIGASHI-OSAKA 577-8502  
 JAPAN  
 E-MAIL ADDRESS : [ODAF@MATH.KINDAI.AC.JP](mailto:ODAF@MATH.KINDAI.AC.JP)

近畿大学・理工学部理学科数学コース 小田 文仁